

[18 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

and Administration Wing etc. in the SPG are common for all protecties.

Action on the Report of Human Rights Commission and CBI on Midnapur massacre

3493. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received the reports of Human Rights Commission and CBI on the Midnapur District in West Bengal massacre;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken cognizance of a complaint dated 26.12.2000, alongwith other complaints alleging violation of human rights of innocent villagers in the Midnapore district of West Bengal. As per the provisions contained in Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 (PHR Act), the Commission shall, after enquiry, send its recommendations to the concerned Government or authority and it is for that Government to take action on the same. The matter is under the consideration of the Commission. The High Court at Calcutta is also seized of a writ petition in respect of Midnapore incidents. The NHRC has kept the consideration of the case pending, in view of the writ petition. The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered a case in the matter and the investigations are going on. CBI has not submitted any report to Government so far.

Repealing of IMDT Act, 1983

3494. DR. (SHRIMATI) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 293 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15th March, 2000 and state the progress made to repeal the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 and the date by which it will be repealed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): The proposal to repeal the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) IMDT Act, 1983 is still under consideration of the Government. No date can be specified by when the IMDT Act, 1983 will be repealed.

Inadequacy of Sophisticated Devices with the Police

†3495. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crimes are increasing due to inadequacy of sophisticated devices with police in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to meet this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The National Crime Records Bureau has estimated that the rates of crime, defined as the incidence of crime per lakh of population, in the year 1996, 1997, 1998 & 1999 were 675.6, 671.2, 636.7 & 497.8 respectively which show a declining trend. The incidence of crime cannot be linked only to availability or otherwise of sophisticated devices with the police. It is rather the product of a number of socio-economic factors.

“Public Order” and “Police” are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has, from time to time, been writing to the State Governments stressing upon them the need to take preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures in connection with crimes. To supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Central Government has been implementing since 1969-70 a scheme for modernisation of State Police Forces under which Central assistance is given to the States for procurement of weapons, communication and security equipment on a matching contribution basis. The outlay for the Central assistance under this scheme has been enhanced to

[†]Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.